PRETRIAL INSTRUCTIONS

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#### A. PRETRIAL MOTIONS

- 1. All dispositive motions are heard **no later than 120 days before trial**, unless leave of court is obtained for another deadline.
- 2. Only **one** summary judgment motion may be filed by each side, absent leave of court. Leave of court may be sought if multiple parties comprise one or both sides. Leave of court may be obtained by filing a motion for administrative relief pursuant to Civ. L. R. 7-11, or by requesting a case management conference or informal telephone conference.
- 3. **Separate** statements of undisputed facts in support of or in opposition to motions for summary judgment shall NOT be filed. <u>See</u> Civil L. R. 56-2. The parties may file a truly **joint** statement of undisputed facts only if all parties agree that the facts are undisputed.
- 4. **Objections** to evidence may no longer be filed separately but must be contained within a brief or memorandum. Civil L. R. 7-3.
- 5. Each party filing or opposing a motion shall also serve and file a **proposed order** which sets forth the relief or action sought and a short statement of the rationale of decision, including citation of authority that the party requests the court to adopt.
- 6. **Chambers copies** of each electronically-filed document must include on each page the running header created by the ECF system and must be delivered to the Clerk's Office by noon the day following its filing. All documents must be stapled or bound by a two-pronged fastener, and all exhibits to declarations or requests for judicial notice must be tabbed.
- 7. **Footnotes** in briefs appearing in smaller than the 12-point font required for the text, will be stricken, <u>see</u> Civil L. R. 3-4(c)(2), as will footnotes that are so numerous as to be clearly designed to defeat the page limits found at Civil L. R. 7-2 7-4.
- 8. Motions pursuant to <u>Daubert v. Merrill Dow Pharmaceuticals, Inc.</u>, 509 U.S. 579 (1993), challenging the reliability of expert testimony, may be noticed for hearing on the date dispositive motions will be heard or on any available hearing date up to and including the date of the final pretrial conference. Irrespective of the hearing date, the briefs shall be filed in accordance with Civil L. R. 7-2 7-5, that is, on a 35-day briefing schedule.
- 9. **Motions** *in limine* are limited to motions to exclude specific items of evidence on a ground and upon such authority as would be sufficient to sustain an objection to such evidence at trial. The court will not generally consider a motion presenting a purely legal issue in the guise of a motion *in limine*.
- 10. **Discovery motions** will be referred to a Magistrate Judge for resolution. The words "Discovery Matter" shall appear in the caption of all documents relating to discovery to insure proper routing.
- 11. **Confidential and/or sealed documents** shall be handled in accordance with this court's standing order and Civil L.R. 79-5, both of which the parties shall consult before moving for a protective order or requesting a sealing order. Requests to seal documents used in conjunction with dispositive motions are rarely granted and then only upon a showing of the most compelling of reasons.

FINAL PRETRIAL CONFERENCE

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- h. Submit two sets for jury trials and three sets for court trials of all premarked exhibits to the Clerk's Office (exhibits are not filed);
- Serve and file any request regarding the treatment of confidential or sealed documents.
- j. Serve and file proposed joint voir dire questions and joint jury instructions for cases to be tried by jury;
- Serve and file proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law for cases or claims to be tried by the court.
- I. Serve and file a proposed verdict form which contains no reference to submitting party.
- 4. No party shall be permitted to call any witness or offer any exhibit in its case in chief that is not disclosed in these pretrial filings without leave of court and for good cause.
- 5. **Not less than 14 days** prior to the pretrial conference, counsel and/or parties shall serve and file any opposition to a motion *in limine*. No replies shall be filed. All motions shall be heard at the pretrial conference unless otherwise ordered. The parties shall not file separate objections, apart from those contained in the motions *in limine*, to the opposing party's witness list, exhibit list or discovery designations.

#### C. JURY TRIAL

<u>Jury Selection</u> shall proceed as follows: The Jury Commissioner will summon 20 to 25 prospective jurors. The Courtroom Deputy will select their names at random and seat them in the courtroom in the order in which their names are called. Voir dire will be conducted of sufficient venire members so that six to eight will remain after all peremptory challenges and an anticipated number of hardship dismissals and cause challenges have been made.

The court will then take cause challenges and discuss hardship claims at side bar. The court will inform counsel which hardship claims and cause challenges will be granted, but will not announce those dismissals until the selection process is completed. Peremptory challenges will be made in writing. The court will strike at one time those with meritorious hardship claims, those excused for cause, and those challenged peremptorily, and then seat the first six to eight people remaining in numerical order.

The attached <u>voir dire</u> questionnaire shall be given to the venire members and copies of the responses will be made available to counsel at the beginning of voir dire. Counsel shall submit a **joint set** of additional voir dire questions to be posed by the court. Any voir dire questions on which counsel cannot agree may be submitted separately. Counsel will be permitted brief follow-up voir dire after the court's questioning.

The following jury instructions from the Ninth Circuit Manual of Model Jury Instructions Civil (2007 Edition) shall be given absent objection: 1.0 - 1.4, 1.6 - 1.14, 1.18 - 1.19, 3.1 - 3.4. Counsel shall submit a **joint set** of these instructions along with case specific instructions using the Ninth Circuit Manual where appropriate. Any instructions on which counsel cannot agree may be submitted separately. Each instruction shall be typed in full on a separate page with citations to the authority upon which it is based **and** a reference to the party submitting it. A second blind copy of each instruction shall also be submitted omitting the citation to authority and the reference to the submitting party, but retaining the title of the instruction.

#### D. TRIAL SCHEDULE

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The court's trial schedule is 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. with two fifteen-minute breaks, on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

### E. PROCEDURE FOR AMENDING THIS ORDER

No provision of this order may be changed except by written order of this court upon its own motion or upon motion of one or more parties made pursuant to Civil. L. R. 7-11 with a showing of good cause. Parties may file a formal brief, but a letter brief will suffice. The requesting party shall serve the opposing party on the same day the motion is filed and the opposing party shall submit a response as soon as possible but no later than four days after service.

If the modification sought is an extension of a deadline contained herein, the motion must be brought <u>before</u> expiration of that deadline. **The parties may not modify the pretrial schedule by stipulation.** A conflict with a court date set after the date of this order does not constitute good cause. The parties are advised that if they stipulate to a change in the discovery schedule, they do so at their own risk. The only discovery schedule that the court will enforce is the one set in this order.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: March 23, 2011

PHYLLIS J. HAMILTON United States District Judge

	<u>CONFIDENTIAL</u>					
1	JUROR QUESTIONNAIRE					
2 3 4	Please fill out this form as completely as possible and print clearly. This will assist the jud and the lawyers in selecting a jury and will save time for them and for you. Because copies to be made for the attorneys and the judge, do not write on the back of any page. If you ne more room, continue at the bottom of the page. Thank you for your cooperation.					
1. Your name: 2. Your age:						
7 8 9	3. City in which you reside: 4. If you have lived there for fewer than five years, where did you live before:					
10 11 12	5. Your place of birth:  6. Your marital status: (circle one)  single married separated divorced widowed  7. What is your occupation and how long have you worked in it? (If you are retiplease describe your main occupation when you were working).					
<ul><li>13</li><li>14</li><li>15</li><li>16</li></ul>						
17 18 19	<ul><li>8. Who is (or was) your employer?</li><li>9. If you have held this job for fewer than five years, describe your previous job:</li></ul>					
20 21	10. If you are married, please list your spouse's occupation.					
22 23	If you have children, please list their ages and genders and, if they are employed, pleagive their occupations.					
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give their occupations.

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	Highest grade completed:					
1						
2	College and/or vocational schools you have attended:					
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6		Major areas of study:				
7	13.	Have you served in the military?		_		
8	14.	Have you ever had jury experience?	No. of times?	_		
9		If yes: State/County Court	_ Federal Court			
10		When?		_		
11		Was it a civil or criminal case?				
12 13		Did any of the juries reach a verdict? _				
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8	Nichole Heuerman, Deputy Clerk	Nichole Heuerman, Deputy Clerk	Nichole Heuerman, Deputy Clerk
	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
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	Nichole Heuerman, Deputy Clerk	Nichole Heuerman, Deputy Clerk	Nichole Heuerman, Deputy Clerk
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